

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

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DIST 20 OCTOBER 1972

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PERSONNEL IN THE STREETS OF SANTIAGO ARE GOOD, AND THE CARABINEROS ARE WORKING UNDER THE COMMAND OF GENERAL HECTOR BRAVO,

COMMANDER OF THE SANTIAGO EMERGENCY ZONE, ALTHOUGH THE ORDERS ARE

BEING RECEIVED VIA THE CARABINERO HIGH COMMAND. THE STANDING

ORDERS ARE TO TREAT BOTH SIDES IN THE CONFORNTATION EQUALLY; I.E.,

WHOEVER ATTEMPTS TO DISRUPT PUBLIC ORDER IS TO BE DETAINED. THUS

FAR. THERE HAS BEEN NO PROBLEM OF A SERIOUS NATURE WITH THE

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PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

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OPPOSITION, AND THE POLICE ARE AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED ITS PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS; THUS, THE POLICE AND MILITARY ARE REALLY ONLY ACTING AGAINST THE EXTREMISTS OF BOTH THE RIGHT AND LEFT.

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2. THE CARABINERO NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (NCO) SCHOOL HAS 600 MEN IN THE STREETS, WHICH SIGNIFIES IT HAS NO REAL RESERVES LEFT. THE MEN HAVE ONLY THREE DAYS SUPPLY OF TEAR GAS AND ARE UNDER ORDERS TO RESTRICT ITS USE. THE MEN OF THE NCO SCHOOL ARE ALSO ALMOST OUT OF FOOD. THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROMISED TO RESUPPLY THE UNIT, BUT AS OF 19 OCT THIS HAD NOT BEEN DONE. THE LITTLE TANKS OF THE NCO SCHOOL HAVE NOT BEEN UTILIZED IN THE CRISIS, BUT THE TANK UNIT IS ON ALERT.

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3. THE HIGH COMMAND OF THE CARABINEROS AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE AWARE THAT THE CAPTAINS AND MAJORS WITHIN THE POLICE FORCE ARE THOSE WHO ARE MOST STRONGLY IN OPPOSITION TO THE POPULAR UNITY (U.P.)

FOR THIS REASON, THE STREET PATROLS ARE BEING LED BY LIEUTENANTS

INSTEAD OF CAPTAINS. THE LIEUTENANTS ARE ALSO OPPOSED TO THE U.P.,

BUT THEY ARE MORE AFRAID TO HEDGE OR REFUSE TO OBEY ORDERS.



6/ 63 PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES



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- A. THE CARABINERO SECURITY FORCE ASSIGNED TO PROTECT PRESIDENT SALVADOR A L L E N D E HAS BEEN DOUBLED TO 200 MEN. A CARABINERO OFFICER, WHO WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO VISITED CUBA, IS GIVING THE CIVILIAN PRESIDENTIAL GUARD (GAP) INSTRUCTIONS IN WEAPONS FIRING. ALSO, A MORTAR, OF ABOUT 81 MM SIZE, HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO CHILE FROM CUBA AND GAP MEMBERS ARE BEING TRAINED IN ITS USE. COMMENT: THE QUANTITY OF THE MORTARS BROUGHT FROM CUBA ARE NOT KNOWN. THE GAP HAS BEEN CONDUCTING PRACTICE FIRING OF THIS MORTAR AT THE CARABINERO RANGE IN LA REYNA.)
- THE GOVERNMENT AS LONG AS THE ARMY DOES. THE CARABINEROS WILL NOT INITIATE ANY MOVE TO OUST THE U.P., SINCE THEY WOULD HAVE TO OPPOSE THE ARMY TO DO SO, AND THEY KNOW THEY WOULD LOSE. IT IS THE OPINION OF CARABINERO OFFICERS THAT THE ARMY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT, AND THUS THE PRESIDENT AND THE U.P. WILL WIN IN THIS CURRENT CONFRONTATION AND THE OPPOSITION WILL LOSE. IT IS ALSO BELIEVED THAT IF ALLENDE AND THE U.P. SURVIVES, MARXISM WILL HAVE A CLEAR ROAD IN CHILE, AND THE CARABINEROS AND THE ARMED FORCES WILL LOSE THEIR PRESENT INSTITUTIONAL INDEPENDENCE AS TIME GOES ON.)

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